

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A portable telephone comprising:
 - 2 a transceiver for transmitting and receiving data;
 - 3 a display device; and
 - 4 control circuitry coupled to the transceiver and the display device,
 - 5 wherein the control circuitry is configured to enable the portable telephone to
 - 6 send and receive electronic mail messages and voice messages using the
 - 7 transceiver, wherein the control circuitry is further configured to cause a
 - 8 graphical user interface to be displayed on the display device, the graphical
 - 9 user interface allowing a user to access stored electronic mail messages and
 - 10 voice messages from a single display screen rendered on the display device.
- 1 2. A portable telephone according to claim 1, wherein the portable telephone
- 2 is a cellular telephone of the hand-held variety.
- 1 3. A machine-implemented method of allowing a user to reply to a stored
- 2 message, the method comprising the steps of:
 - 3 receiving a user input selecting the message, the message having been
 - 4 received from a source;
 - 5 in response to the user input, automatically entering an appropriate
 - 6 one of a plurality of reply modes based on the source of the message.
- 1 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the message can be either an
- 2 electronic mail message or a voice message.

10 in response to the user input, automatically entering an appropriate
11 one of a plurality of reply modes based on the source identifier.

1 9. A method according to claim 8, wherein the step of automatically entering
2 an appropriate one of a plurality of reply modes based on the source identifier
3 comprises the step of automatically entering either an electronic mail reply
4 mode or a voice reply mode based on the source identifier.

1 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein the source identifier comprises
2 Caller ID information, and wherein the step of automatically entering an
3 appropriate one of a plurality of reply modes based on the source identifier
4 further comprises the step of using the Caller ID information to identify the
5 source identifier as a telephone number.

1 11. A method according to claim 9, wherein the source identifier comprises a
2 telephone number, and wherein the step of automatically entering an
3 appropriate one of a plurality of reply modes based on the source identifier
4 further comprises the step of:
5 receiving Caller ID information specifying the telephone number; and
6 automatically initiating a dial-out sequence using the Caller ID
7 information in response to receiving the user input.

1 12. A method according to claim 8, wherein the step of automatically
2 entering an appropriate one of a plurality of reply modes based on the source
3 identifier further comprises the step of

6 numbers is appropriate, to determine if the destination telephone number is
7 currently appropriate.

1 21. A portable telephone according to claim 20, further comprising means for
2 outputting a message if the destination telephone number is determined not
3 to be currently appropriate.

1 22. A portable telephone according to claim 20, further comprising:
2 a display device; and
3 means for generating a graphical user interface using the display
4 device.

1 23. In a portable telephone communication device, a method of conveying
2 current call information to a user, the method comprising the step of
3 displaying an animated indication of a duration of a current communication
4 session on a display device.

1 24. A method according to claim 23, wherein the animated indicator
2 comprises a non-alphanumeric graphical representation.

1 25. A method according to claim 24, wherein the indicator has the appearance
2 of an analog clock.

1 26. A method of enabling a portable telephone communication device to
2 convey current call information to a user, the method comprising the step of

3 transmitting sequences of instructions from a host processing system to the
4 communication device, the sequences of instructions including instructions
5 which, when executed on the communication device, cause the
6 communication device to perform the method recited in claim 23.

1 27. A wireless portable telephone comprising:

2 control circuitry;

3 a transceiver coupled to the control circuitry for transmitting and
4 receiving data over a wireless medium; and

5 a display coupled to the control circuitry;

6 wherein the control circuitry is configured to automatically cause
7 information to be scrolled across the display.

1 28. A wireless portable telephone according to claim 27, wherein the
2 information comprises text information scrolled horizontally across the
3 display.

1 29. A wireless portable telephone according to claim 27, wherein the
2 telephone is operable in any of a plurality of modes, and wherein the control
3 circuitry is further configured to select the content of the scrolled information
4 according to a currently selected mode.

1 30. A wireless portable telephone according to claim 27, wherein the
2 telephone is configured to receive messages using the transceiver and to store

